

Cultural Council Minutes February 18, 2009

Present: GG Getz, Kathy Feek, Tom Gant, Boris Srdar, Jennifer Bushnell, Becca Singer, Mia Coolidge, Bob Larson, Jeff Parks, Amy Whittenburg, Margit Moore, Leah Kliger, Ellen Miller-Wolfe (staff), Julie Huffman (staff),

Absent: Linda Meuter, Cathy Heffron, Mary Jane Vinella

Guest: Norm Storme, Juanita Neighborhood

Juanita Neighborhood Banners

Norm Storme presented the Juanita Neighborhood banner project that creates banners from children's artwork, created by local elementary and high schools in collaboration with local art teachers. Banners will be hung in the Juanita neighborhood. The neighborhood has utilized their neighborhood grant money for this project. Council approved of the artwork and is encouraged by this project.

Introduction of New Members

New applicants Margit Moore and Jeffrey Parks introduced themselves, explaining why they wanted to be on the council. GG introduced Cathy Heffron, who was absent. Council voted to accept all three applicants as members of the council.

Cultural Council Terms, Positions and Recruitment

GG reported that she and staff met with City Attorney Oskar Rey to discuss the current resolution and proposed changes to it that would make cultural council terms consistent in terms of length (4 year terms) and appointment (all appointed by the City Council), update the policies, and potentially extend the term limits from 6 to 8 years. Council gave input on other potential issues that they would like guidance from the City Council on. Youth positions would not be 4 year terms. Council discussed options for what to do if the council's guidance continued to be to work toward non-profit status. Council discussed the specialized positions: youth, heritage, and artist. Council would like the person in the heritage position to become a member of the Heritage Society. Margit has plans to do that.

Community Collaboration

Initial goal of the Cultural Council was to collaborate with local arts organizations. Committee would like to involve community members as well. Leah presented options for doing this. Cultural Council previously set aside \$5,000 for an event, but that money was not carried over into the 2009 budget. Current budget of \$5,000 total that the council receives has \$500 spoken for in creation of Art in Private Development brochures/DVD holders. Subcommittee would like to offer 2 events per year. The events would offer training to strengthen arts organizations in Kirkland and to show that we are a resource/support/umbrella to them. The committee would also like to develop a listserv. Some IT staff time may be helpful and that would need to be paid for. Council discussed the budget and would like more information and details prior to authorizing \$2000 for this endeavor. Ellen Miller-Wolfe offered some options for other projects that are going

on in the City that the arts organizations and cultural council may be able to take advantage of. Initial set up requires some work, but managing the content would be ongoing. Amy offered to manage the content and Bob offered assistance with initial setup. Council would like to run this idea by Jerry to see how it fits into the strategic plan.

Art in Private Development

Bob reported that subcommittee met to discuss process and policies regarding art in private development. Policies mirror our Public Art Policy. One question that arose is whether to involve the community at large in this process. Is the cultural council community involvement enough? Many on the council believe that it is. Council would like to ask that developers bring more than one proposal to the table. Also would like to ensure it is done by a public artist. May want to allow ourselves the option of including additional community members but not make it a requirement. If the community is involved we would like to be able to appoint them rather than opening it up to the community at large. The goal for this process is to have them see us as a resource. Our policies will need to allow for a full process if the developer has the time to engage in this, but a fast-tracked process if they do not. We can also offer to manage the process completely with a budget and time frame they give us. Subcommittee will send the guidelines to the developer ahead of time, and may want to go back to the Design Review Board and present to them again. Bob will incorporate feedback into the policies and send it out again. Julie will determine what the time frame is so we have a better idea.

Strategic Plan

Julie will send a note to steering committee to update them on what is going on, since it has been so long. Consultant has had a death in the family so process has been postponed.

Cultural Council Website

Communications Manager would like to work on the Cultural Council website. Council would like the website to be more user-friendly and have photos where possible. Another option is to have photos that change every 10 seconds of Kirkland art? Council will look at the website and send Julie any ideas they have.